

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A contents distribution system for transmitting and receiving contents and additional information in accordance with a communication protocol in which one or more pieces of the additional information corresponding to an internal attribute of said contents are appended to said contents and said contents and said additional information are packetized as a data part without distinction, said system comprising:

a contents server having storage ~~means-of~~unit holding one or more contents, contents data acquisition ~~means-of~~unit receiving a data request including request range information of contents out of consideration for the additional information, specifying a requested range, and extracting data of contents in said requested range from said storage ~~means~~unit, and transmitting ~~means-of~~unit transmitting the extracted data of said contents with said additional information appended; and

a contents receiving apparatus having receiving ~~means-of~~unit receiving the data of said contents and said additional information that are transmitted from said transmitting ~~means~~unit, received data decision ~~means-of~~unit deciding a receiving request range of said contents out of consideration for said additional information, and data request transmitting ~~means-of~~unit transmitting said data request including said-decided receiving request range as said-request range information;

wherein said contents data acquisition ~~means~~unit specifies said requested range according to said data request transmitted by said data request transmitting ~~means~~unit.

2. (Currently Amended) A contents server for a contents distribution system for transmitting and receiving contents and additional information in accordance with a communication protocol in which one or more pieces of the additional information corresponding to an internal attribute of said contents are appended to said contents and said contents and said additional information are packetized as a data part without distinction, said contents server comprising:

storage ~~means~~of unit holding one or more contents, contents data acquisition ~~means~~of unit receiving a data request including request range information of contents out of consideration for the additional information, specifying a requested range, and extracting the data of contents in said requested range from said storage ~~means~~unit, and transmitting ~~means~~of unit transmitting the extracted data of said contents with said additional information appended.

3. (Original) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein said communication protocol is an HTTP, and said data request is provided with an extension header for writing said request range information of said contents out of consideration for said additional information.

4. (Original) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein said contents are AV contents including any one of or any combination of video, image and audio.

5. (Original) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein said additional information includes information concerning a state of copyright protection of said contents.

6. (Original) The contents server according to claim 2, wherein in the case that said contents are encrypted, said additional information includes information for decoding said encrypted contents.

7. (Currently Amended) A contents receiving apparatus in a contents distribution system for transmitting and receiving contents and additional

information in accordance with a communication protocol in which one or more pieces of the additional information corresponding to an internal attribute of said contents are appended to said contents and said contents and said additional information are packetized as a data part without distinction, said apparatus comprising:

received data decision ~~means~~ofunit deciding a receiving request range of contents out of consideration for the additional information, data request transmitting ~~means~~ofunit transmitting a data request including request range information indicating said decided receiving request range, and receiving ~~means~~ofunit receiving the data of said contents and said additional information.

8. (Currently Amended) The contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said receiving ~~means~~unit stores only the data of said contents in a reception buffer according to the received data of said contents and said additional information.

9. (Original) The contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said communication protocol is an HTTP, and said data request is provided with an extension header for writing said request range information of said contents out of consideration for said additional information.

10. (Original) The contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said contents are AV contents including any one of or any combination of video, image and audio.

11. (Currently Amended) The contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7~~or 10~~, wherein said additional information includes information concerning a state of copyright protection of said contents.

12. (Currently Amended) The contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7~~or 10~~, wherein in the case that said contents are encrypted, said additional information includes information for decoding said encrypted contents.

13. (Currently Amended) A contents distribution method of transmitting and receiving contents, employing a contents server in which one or more pieces of contents are stored, and a contents receiving apparatus receiving said contents from said contents server via a network;

making said contents server perform ~~comprising~~ a step of receiving a data request including request range information of contents out of consideration for additional information, specifying a requested range, and extracting data of contents in said requested range ~~out of storage means~~, and a step of transmitting the extracted data of said contents with said additional information appended; and

making said contents receiving apparatus perform ~~having~~ a step of deciding a receiving request range of said contents out of consideration for said additional information, a step of transmitting said data request including said decided receiving request range as said request range information, and a step of receiving the data of said data of contents and said additional information that are transmitted ~~from by~~ said step of transmitting ~~means~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage media usable on a computer, wherein the storage media is storing a program for the contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein said program enables a computer to implement, for said contents server, storage ~~means of~~ unit holding one or more contents, contents data acquisition ~~means of~~ unit receiving said data request including said request range information of said contents out of consideration for said additional information, specifying a requested range, and extracting said data of contents in said requested range from said storage ~~means~~ unit, and transmitting ~~means of~~ unit transmitting the extracted data of said contents with said additional information appended, and to implement, for said contents receiving apparatus, receiving ~~means of~~ unit receiving the data of said contents and said additional information that are transmitted from said transmitting ~~means~~ unit, received data decision ~~means of~~ unit deciding a receiving request range of said contents out of consideration for said additional information, and data request transmitting ~~means~~

~~ofunit~~ transmitting said data request including said decided receiving request range as said request range information.

15. (Currently Amended) A storage media usable on a computer, wherein the storage media is storing a program for the contents server according to claim 2, wherein said program enables a computer to implement, for said contents server, storage ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ holding one or more contents, contents data acquisition ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ receiving said data request including said request range information of said contents out of consideration for said additional information, specifying a requested range, and extracting said data of contents in said requested range from said storage ~~means~~unit, and transmitting ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ transmitting the extracted data of said contents with said additional information appended.

16. (Currently Amended) A storage media usable on a computer, wherein the storage media is storing a program for the contents receiving apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said program enables a computer to implement, for said contents receiving apparatus, received data decision ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ deciding said receiving request range of contents out of consideration for said additional information, data request transmitting ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ transmitting said data request including said request range information indicating said decided receiving request range, and receiving ~~means~~~~ofunit~~ receiving data of said contents and said additional information.

17. (Cancelled)